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Perhaps one cannot attribute sabotage to these officials of outlying districts, but there can be no doubt that their fear of being compromised by harsh treatment of the people has led them into a true passive resistance. This fear, together with the scorn with which the people receive the directives of the regime has assisted in creating a tacit agreement between the people and some official organizations in many localities, and especially in villages.

The Communist government and party continue to boast of their amazing contributions to the welfare of the people, particularly of the worker. They claim that the conditions created by a proletarian dictatorship are the most effective for a country's development. Just last week, in a speech in the name of the regime and Party, Mehmet Shehu stressed the "leading role of the working class" in Albania. The truth is that miserable living conditions of the worker are the most eloquent accusation of trickery and shamelessness on the part of the Albanian Communist Party.

It is sufficient to visit the houses of workers in the Vlone rice-milling factory. There, ten workers live in a small room in a house near the building yard; men and women live in the same room. The most necessary comforts are lacking, and the sanitary conditions are unspeakable. In the evening the rooms are lighted by torches. The dining room has no windows. There is no such thing as cleanliness or order. Every evening after a hard day's work, the workers are obliged to spend three quarters of an hour getting their food ration. Then, when they return to the dining room, they often find the door shut.

So far, the state bureaucracy, especially the agitprop section, has done little but make all sorts of promises to pacify the people, telling them that this phase will soon be over and that they should be patient because, by their sacrifices, they are building socialism. But the workers are becoming bored and they, as well as the Albanian people in general show signs of impatience through protests which they would not have dared to make earlier. Those who do not accept such sacrifices wonder why the Communist leaders are living in luxury at the expense of the worker.

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